

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 SAJ-01

ACDA-19 NEA-11 DRC-01 /187 W
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R 261601Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2489

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 295

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN CH VS

SUBJ: UNSC CONSULTATIONS ON PARACELS ISSUE

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED 1. DAY BEFORE HIS RETURN TO COSTA
RICA, SC PRESIDENT FACIO IN JAN 25 PRESS BRIEFING ANNOUNCED
SC WOULD NOT MEET TO DISCUSS PARACELS ISSUE. RVN SENT
LETTER TO SC PRESIDENT JAN 24 WHICH "VIRTUALLY WITHDREW"
ITS ORIGINAL REQUEST FOR URGENT MEETING. FACIO SAID THE
NEW RVN LETTER MAKES SC MEETING UNNECESSARY AND THAT IT
HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT PARACELS IS MATTER FOR ICJ OR ANY
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LEGAL BODY TO DECIDE. FACIO SAID THERE NO SUPPORT FOR

SC MEETING BECAUSE PRC IMPLIED IT WOULD VETO ANY SC DECISION AND POSSIBILITY THAT SVN SPOKESMAN WOULD BE PREVENTED FROM PLEADING SOUTH VIETNAMESE CASE.

2. FACIO SAID IN CONSULTATIONS SOME MEMBERS CONTESTED RIGHT OF RVN, WHICH NOT MEMBER OF UN, TO CALL FOR SC MEETING. FACIO SAID HE SUPPORTED RVN ACTION. FACIO SAID ACCORDING TO HIS SURVEY, THE NINE NEEDED VOTES FOR INSCRIPTION OF PARACELS ISSUE NOT AVAILABLE. HE SAID THERE FAVORABLE RESPONSE FROM ONLY FIVE COUNTRIES: US, UK, AUSTRALIA, COSTA RICA AND "PROBABLY" AUSTRIA. AMONG THOSE WHICH OPPOSED A SC MEETING DURING CONSULTATIONS WERE PRC, USSR, BYELORUSSIA, IRAQ, INDONESIA, AND "PROBABLY" FRANCE.

3. FACIO REGRETTED LACK OF SC MEETING AND FELT UN MACHINERY DID NOT WORK EFFECTIVELY. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION, HE SAID US DID NOT PRESS FOR A MEETING AND IT HIS (FACIO) FEELING THAT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS THE US REALLY DID NOT WANT ONE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

4. UK REP CALLED AMB SCHAUFELLE LATER JAN 25 TO EXPRESS UKUN UNHAPPINESS OVER FACIO'S BREACH OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF CONSULTATION. HE SAID HE MIGHT RAISE SUBJECT IN ANTICIPATED SC CONSULTATIONS ON MIDDLE EAST JAN 29. AUSTRIAN DEPPERMRREP ALSO CALLED TO EXPRESS CONCERN BUT WAS THINKING OF BILATERAL DEMARCHE TO FACIO. SCHAUFELLE CALLED FACIO TO WARN HIM OF PENDING STORM AND EXPRESS VIEW THAT STATEMENT AT PRESS BRIEFING WAS UNUSUAL BASED ON HIS EXPERIENCE IN SC. FACIO SAID HE GAVE CORRESPONDENTS ONLY HIS VIEW AND THIS WAS NOT BASED ON STATEMENTS MADE DURING CONSULTATIONS BUT ON HIS IMPRESSIONS. FACIO SAID THAT FRENCH PARTICULARLY ANGRY AT HIS STATEMENTS DURING PRESS BRIEFING AND ALREADY HAD PROTESTED. END CONFIDENTIAL

5. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF RVN JAN 24 LETTER:

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QUOTE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I WISH TO REFER TO MY LETTER OF JANUARY 20, 1974, REQUESTING AN URGENT MEETING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THE GRAVE THREAT TO PEACE CAUSED BY THE ACTS OF WAR PERPETRATED BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE AREA OF THE HOANG-SA (PARACELS) ARCHIPELAGO.

WE MADE THAT REQUEST IN THE EARNEST HOPE THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD TAKE CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM AND ADOPT ADEQUATE MEASURES TO REMEDY THE SITUATION.

HOWEVER, THE PERMANENT DELEGATE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL HAD SUBSEQUENTLY ISSUED A THOROUGHLY NEGATIVE STATEMENT, PRESENTING A DISTORTED VERSION OF THE FACTS AND CLINGING TO THE FALSE CLAIMS OF CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE HOANG-SA (PARACELS) AND TRUONG-SA (SPRATLEY) ARCHIPELAGOS.

SINCE THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND HAS VETO POWER, THIS LEAVES LITTLE HOPE FOR ANY CONSTRUCTIVE DEBATE OR POSITIVE ACTIONS.

THEREFORE, I WISH TO INFORM YOU THAT ALL MY COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DRAWING THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL ON THE GRAVE SITUATION EXISTING IN THE SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION AS A RESULT OF CHINA'S ENCROACHMENT ON THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM'S TERRITORY.

IT BELONGS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND ITS MEMBERS TO FULFILL THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND TO DECIDE ON WHAT IS TO BE DONE TO CORRECT THAT SITUATION.

I WISH TO AVAIL MYSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REJECT ONCE MORE THE UNFOUNDED CLAIM OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA OVER THE HOANG-SA (PARACELS) AND TRUONG-SA (SPRATLEY) ARCHIPELAGOS AND TO REAFFIRM THE INDISPUTABLE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM OVER THE ISLANDS.

WHILE THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM IS PROFOUNDLY ATTACHED TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SETTLING INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES BY PEACEFUL MEANS,
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IT HAS TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO DEFEND ITS SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

(COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE) SIGNED: VUONG VAN BAC UNQUOTE
SCALI

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